



## Tennessee Regulatory Authority

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For Release: September 13, 2002

### **\*\*Consumer Alert\*\***

#### **TRA Establishes Safety Net in Adelphia's Absence; Sprint-United to be the Tri-Cities' Default Telephone Service Provider**

**Nashville, Tennessee** – In an emergency scheduled conference today the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA) voted to permit Sprint-United to be the default local telephone service provider in the Tri-Cities area upon Adelphia Business Solutions' discontinuance of telephone service. The vote was unanimous.

As part of a Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing by Adelphia, the company recently informed the TRA that it will discontinue providing telecommunications services in the Northeast Tennessee area no earlier than Friday, September 20, 2002.

Eddie Roberson, chief of the TRA's Consumer Services Division, says that by allowing Sprint-United to be the default local telephone service provider, the TRA's decision will provide Adelphia's customers with a much needed safety net.

"With Adelphia discontinuing its local telephone service in the area and with Sprint-United serving as the default local service provider, Adelphia customers can rest assured that there will be telephone service available to them," he said. "But they are still free shop around for an alternate telephone company if they have not already done so."

Adelphia Business Solutions is based in Coudersport, Pennsylvania. The company has approximately 7,000 telephone access lines in the Tri-Cities.

For a list of alternate telecommunications service providers offering service in the Tri-Cities area, customers may refer to their local telephone directory, or visit the TRA's web site at [www.state.tn.us/tra/coninfo.htm](http://www.state.tn.us/tra/coninfo.htm), or call the TRA at 1 (800) 342-8359.

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